

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1 to 23 (Canceled)

24. (Currently Amended) ~~A process~~ An arrangement according to claim 23 ~~48~~, wherein ~~said a~~ cross sectional space ~~of said monolith~~ has a nonround shape.

25. (Currently Amended) A process mount in accordance with claim 23 ~~40~~, wherein said mounting mat ~~has a multilayer design consisting of~~ includes at least two layers, wherein the material used for the individual layers is selected corresponding to the function of the layer during the operation for minimizing the erosion of the said mounting mat as a whole and/or is cut in the proper configuration.

26. (Currently Amended) A process mount in accordance with claim 23 ~~40~~, wherein said step of treating includes using fiber felts and/or fabric mats which are assigned to at least one of the following materials or product groups:

- Leached glass
- quartz glass
- aluminum oxide
- mixtures of aluminum oxide and silica
- certain boron and/or zirconium contents

and said step of using includes using said fiber felts and/or fabric mats as the temperature- and

10 oxidation-resistant individual mats of said mounting mat.

27. (Currently Amended) A process mount in accordance with claim 25, wherein said mounting mat with at least one said swelling mat includes an individual mat consisting of including ceramic fiber fabric used as an inner layer of said mounting mat facing said housing.

28. (Currently Amended) A process mount in accordance with claim 25, wherein a wire mesh is cut narrower in an axial extension of the mounting mat as compared to the rest of the mounting mat and is used as an inner support of the mounting mat.

29. (Currently Amended) A process mount in accordance with claim 25, wherein said step of treating includes forming local erosion-minimizing areas including thickened material introduced into or applied to the an individual mat part of said mounting mat to form areas of thickened material, wherein the individual mat part has indentations or perforations, which fit  
5 the areas of thickened material in a positive-locking manner.

30. (Currently Amended) A process mount in accordance with claim 25, wherein fibers with a thickness of 6 to 12 m are used in the individual mats.

31. (Currently Amended) A process mount in accordance with claim 25, wherein a swelling mat is used as an individual mat of said mounting mat.

32. (Currently Amended) A process mount in accordance with claim 31, wherein a combination of said swelling mat and fiber mat sections are arranged one behind the other to form said individual of said mat mounting mat, wherein the connection joint of the individual swelling mat and fiber mat sections has a wavy shape.

33. (Currently Amended) A process mount in accordance with claim 31, wherein said individual mat or the mounting mat is impregnated in said areas at risk of erosion before being wrapped around the ceramic monoliths, wherein the impregnation is performed on the side of the mat facing the monolith with diluted, heat-resistant adhesives, which are made able to penetrate with a wetting agent and are assigned to at least one of the following product groups:

- Colloidal solution of silicic acid dissolved in water,
- water glass,
- alkali siliconates, e.g., potassium methyl silicate,
- monoaluminum phosphate solution, and
- aluminum chromium phosphate solution.

34. (Currently Amended) A process mount in accordance with claim 33, wherein the adhesive is diluted during the impregnation to the extent that binder is present only in the contact areas between the fibers and optionally between the fibers and the mica binder.

35. (Currently Amended) A process mount in accordance with claim ~~23~~ 40, wherein

the mounting mat is bonded to the ceramic monolith and/or to the housing with a temperature-resistant mat adhesive, wherein the mat adhesive is applied an inside of the housing and/or to the ceramic monolith and the mounting mat is inserted and is mounted wet in the housing.

36. (Currently Amended) A process mount in accordance with claim 35, wherein the mat adhesive comprises an adhesive assigned to at least one of the following product groups is used:

- Colloidal solution of silicic acid dissolved in water,
- water glass,
- alkali siliconates, e.g., potassium methyl silicate,
- monoaluminum phosphate solution, and
- aluminum chromium phosphate solution.

37. (Currently Amended) A process mount in accordance with claim 23 ~~40~~, wherein holding forces between the mounting mat and the housing are brought about by a positive locking including increasing the surface roughness to form rough areas, before or during the assembly of the exhaust gas unit.

38. (Currently Amended) A process mount in accordance with claim 37, wherein the surface roughness is increased by milling or etching in the rough areas or by using a mat binder.

39. (Currently Amended) A process mount in accordance with claim ~~23~~ 40, wherein a preassembled phenolic resin adhesive film is arranged on an outside of the mounting mat and is inserted together with the mounting mat and is bonded on the inside of the housing during the operation of the exhaust gas unit including during heating on the outside.

40. (Currently Amended) A ceramic monolith mount, comprising:  
a motor vehicle exhaust unit housing with a preferably nonround housing shape formed of one of a pipe or half shells;

a mounting mat with at least one swelling mat, the mounting mat being a multilayer mat  
5 with different swelling mats with expanded mica mat structure and/or fiber mat structure provided on an inside and on an outside, the mount being formed ~~bey~~ by the steps of:

wrapping a mounting mat around the ceramic monolith;

mounting the wrapped monolith in the housing;

providing the mounting mat with the at least one said swelling mat which is a mixture  
10 of ceramic fibers, expanded mica and organic binder;

treating one or both of the mounting mat and the housing chemically and/or structurally for minimizing the erosion at least in an erosion risk area or in the area in which damage has occurred.

41. (Original) A ceramic monolith mount in accordance with claim 40, wherein said fiber mat structure of said mounting mat is a shear-resistant mat.

42. (Original) A ceramic monolith mount in accordance with claim 41, wherein said shear-resistant fiber mat structure has oblique felt fibers, which extend at a flat angle ( $\alpha$ ) of  $5^\circ$  to  $60^\circ$ , from an underside to a top side, said fiber mat structure and ends of felt fibers are bonded on an interfaces or said underside and top side of the fiber mat structure.

43. (Original) A ceramic monolith mount in accordance with claim 42, wherein said shear-resistant fiber mat has fibers that are arranged in loops over a thickness of said fiber mat, wherein the loops are in contact with and bonded on said top side and said underside of said fiber mat.

44. (Original) The ceramic monolith mount in accordance with claim 40, wherein an individual mat of said mounting mat or said mounting mat is composed, in the circumferential direction from the ceramic monolith, of swelling mat sections and intercalated fiber mat sections without granular components and without expanded mica, said fiber mat sections being associated with said areas at risk of erosion, wherein the connection edges between said swelling mat sections and said fiber mat sections have a mutually meshing joint in a wavy shape to form erosion-resistant fiber mat sections and said individual mat faces said ceramic monolith.

45. (Original) Mounting in accordance with claim 44, wherein said erosion-resistant fiber mat sections have wave-shaped tongues and said swelling mat sections are pressure-resistant swelling mat sections with wave-shaped cutouts.

46. (New) An exhaust arrangement comprising:

a mounting mat including a plurality of layers, two of said layers having different swelling characteristics, one of said mats being chemically treated in selective areas to reduce erosion.

47. (New) An arrangement in accordance with claim 46, wherein:

said chemically treated selective areas of said one mat are determined to receive more erosive effects than other areas of said one mat.

48. (New) An arrangement in accordance with claim 46, further comprising;

a monolith, said mounting mat being arranged around said monolith;

a housing arranged around said mounting mat, said mounting mat being arranged between said monolith and said housing to hold said monolith in said housing and to seal said monolith to said housing, a shape of said monolith and a shape of said housing creating high erosion risk spaces and low erosion risk spaces, said chemically treated selective areas of said one mat being arranged in said high erosion risk spaces.